

2-10-2005

## Vista: February 10, 2005

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Students and stars  
at Sundance  
**FEATURE**  
Feature, page 8

Ads monkey around  
**SPORTS**  
Sports, page 15



# The VISTA

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO



Volume 42, Issue 1

Thursday, February 10, 2005

## Healing a broken world

Local community gathers for 12th annual all-faith service



PHOTOS BY FRED GREAVES

Top Left: Liturgical dancers open up the All Faith Service in the Immaculata on Friday. Top Right: Monsignor Dillabough welcomes everyone to the service. Bottom Left: Azim Khamisa shares a personal story of healing through forgiveness. Bottom Right: Flag bearers walk down the center aisle of the church.

By Kenneth Creech & Elijah Bonde  
STAFF WRITERS

**L**ed by international students bearing colorful flags from around

the world, the All Faith Service began inside the packed Immaculata church on Friday. Six students followed the flag bearers, with the colorful liturgical dancers and the rest of the procession entering after.

This colorful, vibrant ceremony entitled "Healing a Broken World." Each speaker, storyteller and singer presented with this theme in mind.

Students, teachers and numerous others came

together to celebrate the diverse religions of the world and our country during the service.

The All Faith Service was not a traditional Catholic mass. It was a

Please see **Faith**, page 2

## Maroon 5 to play spring concert

By Jen Rasmussen  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

21, for a reduced price of \$25.

**T**he stage at the JCP has seen performances from many popular musicians. On May 9, Maroon 5 will join the ranks of Ben Harper, Jack Johnson, and the Roots.

After weeks of contract talks, AS has announced that The Honda Civic Presents: Maroon 5 tour will make a stop at USD.

"We think it will be a big hit at USD," said AS Director of Concerts John Schalk. "It's what we have been looking for."

Tickets will go on sale Feb. 19 at 10 a.m. through ticketmaster, but students can buy their tickets at the USD box office, beginning on Feb.

"USD students are given a \$15 discount, and don't have to pay and service charges," Schalk said.

The Thrills will join Maroon 5 as the opener, and a second opener may be announced at a later date.

The USD spring concert is the last date on the bands' North American tour.

Maroon 5 has been gaining popularity since the release of their album, *Songs About Jane*, in 2002, and they have been nominated for two Grammys this year.

Their performance will be one of the most high-profile shows that has been booked at USD. "It is a big show for us," Schalk said. "We're hoping for a sell-out crowd."

## Visual Arts faculty exhibit opens in Founders Gallery

By Jennifer Erickstad  
COPY EDITOR

**T**he tables have turned in the art department, and it is now the professors' chance to show their work to the USD community. The 2005 Visual Arts Faculty Exhibit opened February 1 and will run until March 18 in Founders Gallery. Fourteen professors from the art department are exhibiting pieces including paintings, drawings, photography, new media, visual communication design and sculpture.

The faculty exhibit is

an annual event put on by the art department and University Design. This year, Paul Turounet, a professor of photography, and Meghan Reiff, the executive assistant of University Design, coordinated the exhibit. While the exhibit gives exposure to the faculty members, its main goal is geared toward reaching out to the community. "It shows some of the students and the campus community what kind of work the faculty do, and gives insight into the art department," Reiff said. Andrea Cutlip, executive assistant of the art department, also helped coordinate the exhibit, and

believes that it benefits students by giving them a chance to see the talents of the instructor and what they can learn from the instructor.

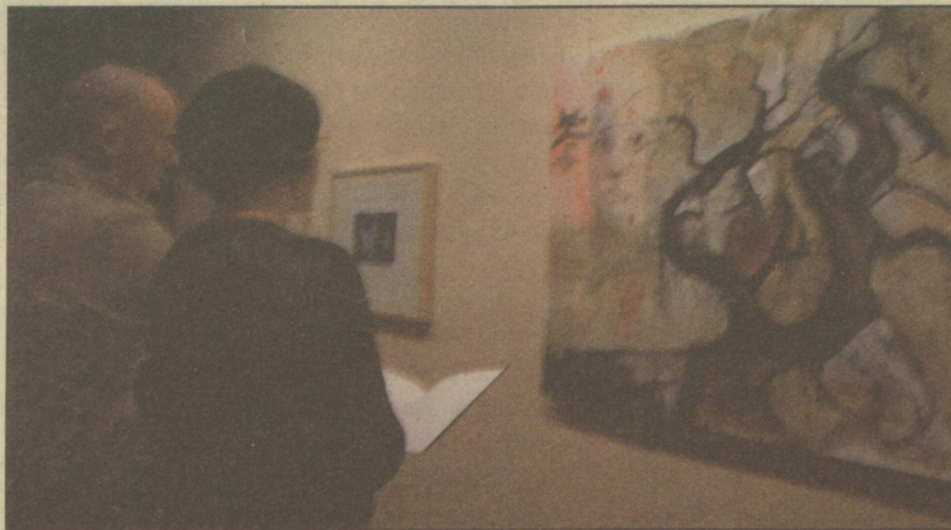
All of the faculty members in the department are working artists, and they were each asked to submit up to two pieces. This provided a range of artistic styles, accurately reflecting the diversity of the department. With the varying natures of each professor's work, Turounet says it is hard to do a thematic exhibit. However, he does note a general overarching theme. "There is a lot of

exploration of identity—a look at the world at large and trying to understand it through artistic practice," Turounet said.

Turounet himself has two photographs in the exhibit. Both of these are new pieces that have never been exhibited before.

He believes that this is one of the advantages of the faculty exhibit.

Please see **Art**, page 3



INGRID HERNANDEZ-MONROY

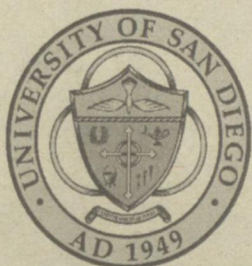
Two members of the USD community view "Grow," a piece by Elissa Lieberman.



## The Vista

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Cont. from Art, pg. 1

"It is an opportunity for us to put out new work and allows us to not only advocate artistic practice but also show that we constantly practice it ourselves," he said.

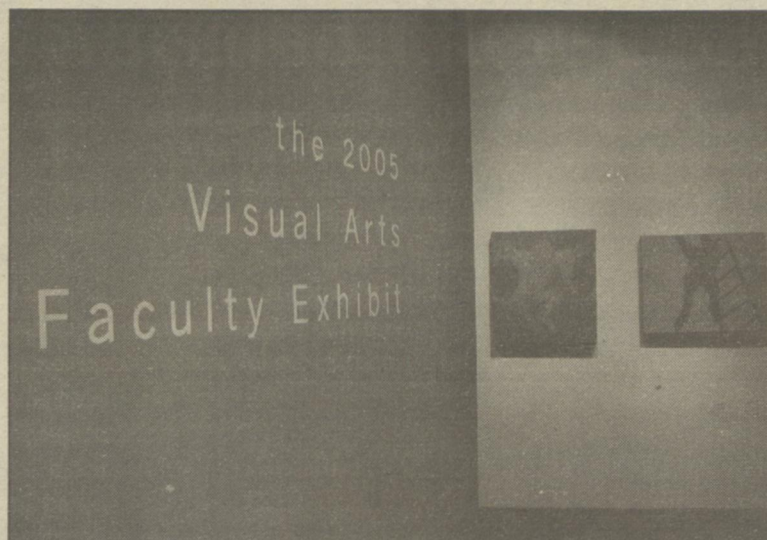
Turounet's exhibit pieces are part of a larger collection of sixty photographs that document the migrant experience. In order to find the people and places that would become the subjects for his photographs, Turounet traveled around with the Mexican border patrol.

During these trips, he photographed a shrine put together by migrants in the mountains of Tecate and a woman from Guatemala who had traveled fifteen days to reach the US-Mexico border. These two photographs are the ones currently being shown in the exhibit.

While Turounet's work took him south of the border, another USD photography professor, Duncan McCosker, made Seoul his destination of choice. McCosker's experience in Seoul, however, did not begin as a working trip. His wife is Korean, and during a trip to visit family, McCosker was inspired to capture the images of the city.

"Because I am addicted to photography, I photograph wherever I can," McCosker said.

McCosker's two photographs in the faculty exhibit



Two oil paintings by Professor John Halaka are on display. The Visual Arts exhibit is free and open Tuesdays through Saturdays 12 to 4:30 p.m. and Thursdays 12 to 6 p.m. in Founders Gallery.

were shot at the Coex Mall, a one-million-square-foot shopping center that McCosker describes as "a magnet for young people." It is exactly this reason why McCosker chose the Coex Mall as his location. "At the heart of my photography, throughout my work, I have been following the crowds," McCosker said. For McCosker, these crowds, as well as the photographs that result from them, "represent a type of cultural mirror."

McCosker found Korean society to be full of pressures, especially for young people. He captures the weariness created by these pressures in his photographs, such as the young man in "Standing Figure at the Coex Mall." He juxtaposes this weariness, however, with the

vibrant energy of the Coex Mall itself. McCosker described the mall as a type of "Disneyland," with a "weird, other-worldly feeling and an artificial glow." By combining these two elements, he created his desired effect. "My photos engage in irony, going back and forth between the attractiveness of the light and the weariness of the subject," McCosker said.

The exhibit also features work from Sarah Doherty, Elissa Lieberman, Saba Oskoui, db smith, John Halaka, Maryann Luera, Danielle Michaelis, Michael Rich, Bill Kelly, Orna McCann, Michael Mulno and Lisa Sarkees.

The exhibit is free and open Tuesdays through Saturdays 12 to 4:30 p.m. and Thursdays 12 to 6 p.m.

Cont. from Faith, pg. 1

chance for various religious groups to present their faiths and practices. The audience was allowed to look into others' traditions that they may not have been aware of.

To begin the service, Monsignor Dillabough opened with a welcome to the audience and the presenters. Next, a Jewish call to prayer by Rabbi Dalin began the presentations. After each presentation, a USD student read a prayer from that particular religion.

The next presentation was a chant performed by four Buddhist monks dressed in traditional orange robes. The American Indian tradition followed with a folktale about the value of community and the downfalls of vanity and greed.

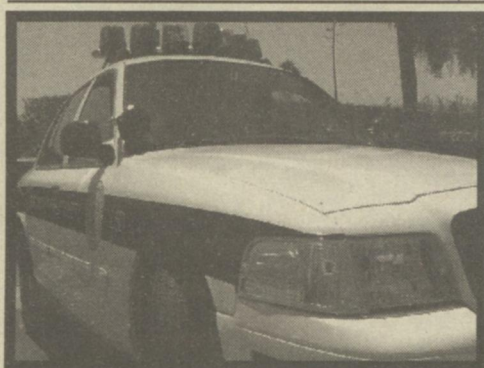
A moving part of the service was when Mr. Azim Khamisa, a Sufi Muslim, told a personal story about the loss of his son and the healing that formed from his forgiveness.

The Christian tradition was presented by Preston Dill, a fourteen-year-old singer, who gave an astonishing rendition of Amazing Grace.

When the end of the service came, the students of the Shiva-Vishnu Temple gave a Hindu closing prayer.

The All Faith Service was begun by Monsignor I.B. Eagen,

Please see Faith, page 3



## PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

Jan. 31 - Feb. 7

**31 San Juan**—At approximately 2:00 a.m., Resident Assistants responded to a noise disturbance. Upon arrival the Resident Assistants witnessed several students in possession of alcohol. The students were cited for MIPs.

**Manchester Village**—A resident student filed a report with Public Safety Officers involving a series of harassing phone calls.

**Camino Founders Patio**—At 11:58 p.m., Resident Director responded to a noise disturbance caused by seven people.

**2 Parking Structure**—Public Safety Officers observed a vehicle running a stop sign. Upon investigation, the occupants in the vehicle were found in possession of alcohol and were cited for MIPs.

**University Center**—Public Safety Officers received a report of a stolen backpack.

**3 Founders Residence Hall**—Resident Assistants requested that Public Safety Officers investigate marijuana smoke coming from a resident's room. Upon investigation the residents were cited for Possession of marijuana.

**University Center**—Public Safety Officers observed a student with unsteady gait, slurred speech and red watery eyes speaking very loudly. Upon further contact, the Officers determined the student to be intoxicated and unable to care for herself. She was transported to Detox with a BAC level of .199.

**4 Missions A**—Resident Assistants cited six students for MIPs.

**UTAs**—Public Safety Officers observed two resident students carrying alcoholic beverages in public. Upon questioning, one of the students was found in possession of a false driver's

license. The students were cited for MIPs.

**University Center**—A student filed a report with Public Safety for a surfboard stolen from her vehicle. Upon further investigation, the student admitted that an acquaintance of hers had played a practical joke and that she now knew where the surfboard was located.

**5 Parking Structure**—A Public Safety Officer observed marijuana smoke coming from a driver's open window of a vehicle. Upon questioning, the students inside the car admitted to being under the influence of marijuana and in possession of marijuana as well as selling marijuana.

**San Miguel**—Public Safety responded to a disturbance/possible domestic violence incident. A non-USD male was taken into custody by Public Safety Officers and then booked into jail by San

Diego Police for Intimidating a Victim and Battery.

**San Juan**—Resident Assistants cited six students for MIPs.

**6 Maher Residence Hall**—Public Safety Dispatcher reported several students shining a spotlight into a surveillance camera. While questioning the group of 12 individuals, Public Safety Officers observed four students to be heavily intoxicated and unable to care for themselves, and transported them to Detox. One student was also urinating on the wall of Procurement Services. Their BAC levels were 0.206, 0.183, 0.121, 0.133.

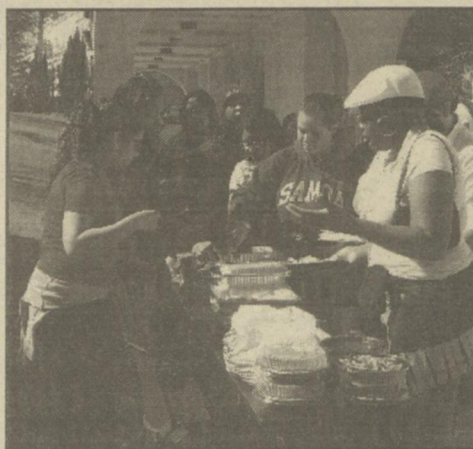
**7 Maher Hall**—At approximately 12:08 a.m., Public Safety Officers responded to a loud noise complaint. Officers advised the students to keep the noise level down.



**BSU nooner kicks off Black History Month**

Above: The Black Student Union dance team performs in front of the University Center in celebration of Black History Month.

Right: After watching the lineup of entertainment planned by BSU, students line up to get free food. During the next month, BSU is planning to host more events that invite the participation of the entire USD community. For example, Anna Deveare Smith will be the Black History Month Keynote. The event will take place on Feb. 17 at 7p.m.



PHOTOS BY EVAN BARNES

Cont. from **Faith**, pg. 1

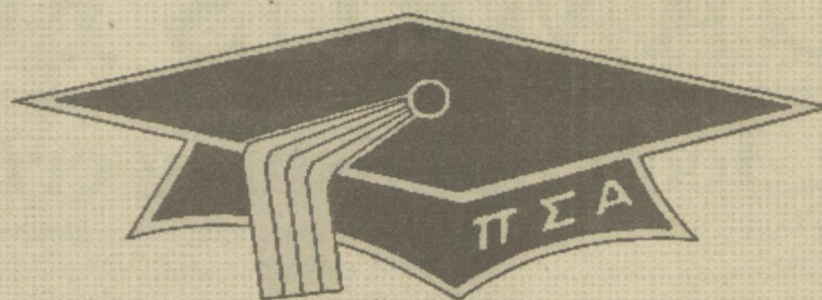
vice president for mission, according to Dillabough.

"I believe that he structured the All Faith Service after the model of Pope John Paul II who had invited religious leaders from around the world to come to Assisi, the city of St. Francis, for

prayer for peace," Dillabough said.

After Dillabough gave his closing comments, the procession led by the flags of the world again left the Immaculata.

"As a Catholic university, our All Faith Service recognizes and celebrates the diversity of faith traditions present in our community," Dillabough said.



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## Dr. Jeon publishing criticism

By Josh Ades  
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Joseph Jeon of the English department is a happily busy man. In addition to illuminating the minds of numerous eager USD students each semester, he is currently working on a book which provides a literary criticism of Asian-American poetry and how modern literary techniques are affecting the genre, an anthology that will rival the *Norton Anthology of American Literature*, and preparing a piece on the amnesic plot prevalent in modern movies and media for *The International Narrative*.

It seems remarkable that one person can take on so many projects at once, but as Jeon explained, "It is part of teaching, not distinct and separate." He shows great enthusiasm for his work and puts in many hours, claiming, "Hour for hour, if I were to work at McDonald's I'd probably be making more money." For Jeon, literature is a passion as well as a lifestyle.

His Asian-American poetry book has been in the works for three years. Recently, he published the first chapter in volume 37:1 of *SLI: Studies in Literary Imagination*. This first chapter is a teaser for the great work that is to follow. It is a study of Korean-American poet Myung Mi Kim's work which explores cultural differences highlighting the difficulty of learning the proper pronunciation of the English language. In this section, Jeon shows his talent at diving into, analyzing, and teaching about literature.

In Jeon's latest book, the reader can expect a thorough

investigation of modernism in Asian-American literature and its value to society.

Another of Jeon's long-term projects is his contribution to a new anthology of American literature. He has spent the past two years compiling and



Dr. Joseph Jeon, a man with a passion for Literature and a professor at USD, is working on many projects.

assembling Asian-American works. He is eager to point out an increase in the amount of Asian-American pieces that this anthology is accepting compared to others. There has always been a "canon" of writers who are notable for their works and their contribution to literature. Jeon is anxious to discuss a widening of the canon over the past few decades by amazing Asian-American authors, often producing some of the most beautiful immigration tales ever written.

On a short-term level, Jeon is working on the topic of amnesia in modern films and media. He points out that the amnesia plot where a character wakes up and suddenly does not remember anything is not a new plot, but rather a changing one.

*Memento*, *The Bourne Identity*, and the like are great examples of plots he is dissecting. In the summer, he will travel to the International Narrative Conference in Louisville, Kentucky to present his work on a panel and network his English skills.

Much of this work sounds fun and is likely to sway a few students to become English professors. Jeon cautions that this is a very difficult road and should be pursued only if your passion is strong enough to get you through the six to ten, and sometimes more, years it takes to write your dissertation.

He recommends reading literary criticisms and making sure you would enjoy writing them. After all of that, it is important to keep in mind how arbitrary the hiring/accepting process often is, with so many applications for each position.

Jeon's work is not about selling units or becoming famous. He has his own definition of success, "Success is if it's useful for 10 people and they do something with it."

## Seniors stressed about "the big G"

By Marc Adams  
STAFF WRITER

As the beginning of a new semester brings excitement and electricity back to campus, it also brings a world of anxiety for seniors such as Sean Umipig. After transferring to USD two years ago, Umipig is now preparing to graduate in May.

The big question for him is not if in fact he will graduate, but rather what to do next. This is a problem faced by many of USD's best and brightest seniors. Life on the "other side" can seem daunting, scary and worst of all, uncertain.

"Not knowing what is going to happen is probably the most nerve-racking thing," Umipig said.

According to counselors at the Career Center, the feeling of uncertainty is not uncommon. Many seniors enter their final semester with very little knowledge of what they will be doing after graduation.

As Career Center director Linda Scales explains, there is no reason to panic. She says many students even put off making a decision to find a job until after they graduate.

"They are kind of ready to face that issue [of deciding] by fall of the year after graduation" Scales said. But she still recommends thinking about the future early. "If they [graduating seniors] just ignore it and just play all semester, those are the students that tend to be the most stressed."

However, many students and alumni alike have difficulty simply thinking about their future due to the vast amount of options available to them.

With a degree in hand, alumni can find themselves overwhelmed by the ocean of possibilities that lie before them. A graduate can pursue further education in graduate school, jump into the job market or venture into a host of other areas including volunteer work.

A survey taken of USD students in the class of 2003 one year after their graduation reveals a reported 78.7% of respondents having full or part-time employment.

Almost 15% reported being in graduate or professional school, and the remaining 6.5% reported they were traveling, volunteering, tending to a personal commitment or actively seeking employment. The survey results are based on a sample of a little more than a quarter of that graduating class.

Some of this year's seniors have the good fortune of knowing exactly where they will be in a year. Senior Brian Valenzuela has already signed on the dotted line and is guaranteed a career job upon graduation.

Valenzuela, an accounting student and former president of USD's accounting society, Beta Alpha Psi, has a job waiting for him at Ernst and Young, one of the nation's leading accounting

Please see **Seniors**, page 15

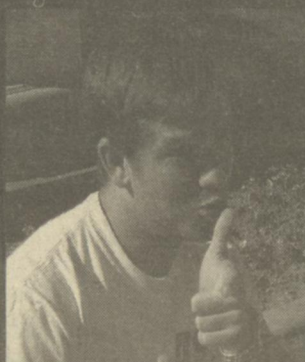
# The word around campus...

What question would you rather be asked than "How was your break?"



"How are the ladies?"

Ryan Gallagher, senior



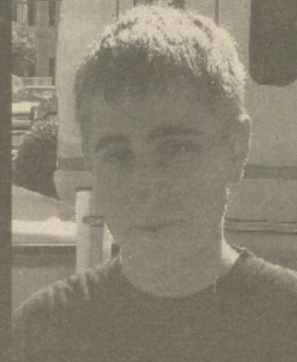
"Would you like to meet all of my hot girl friends?"

Aaron Carlton, junior



"It's a little bit different in law school because we're just happy we're still alive."

Corrie Klekowski, law student



"Where's the party?"

Wes Fones, freshman



Cont. from **Seniors**, page 14

firms. He is simply biding time in school to get his degree.

"I really don't want to be here. I feel it is a waste of time because I already have my job lined up," Valenzuela said.

But it is exactly students like Valenzuela that panic students like Umipig. "My main reason for the anxiety was thinking,

'these people have it all together. How come I don't?' " recalled Umipig.

According to Career Center counselor and associate director, James Tarbox, volunteering is also a popular option among USD students. Last year, USD ranked eleventh among small colleges and universities in the percentage of students who joined the Peace

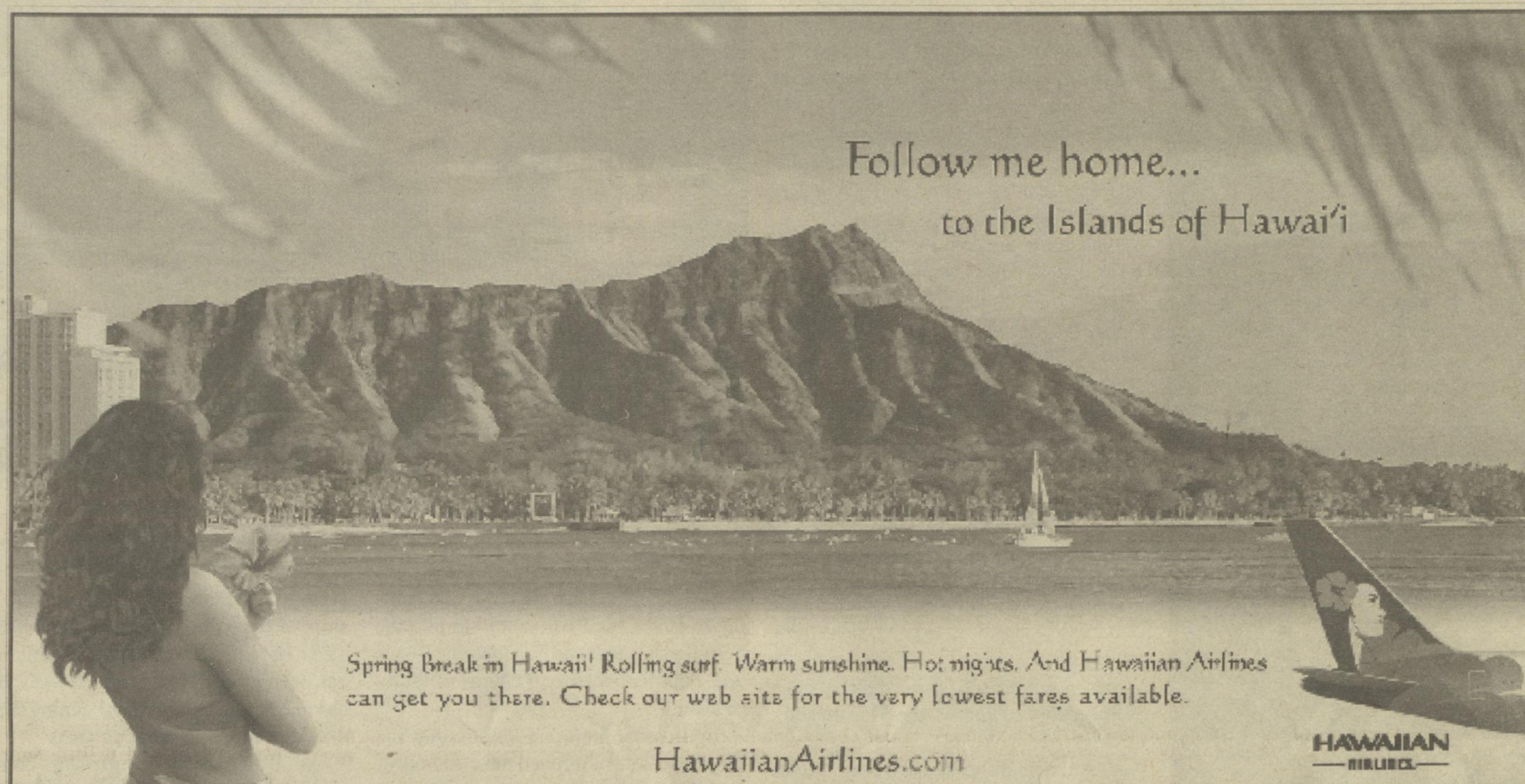
Corps. Others chose to join the Jesuit Volunteer Corps (JVC), which has placements both domestically and internationally. A number of volunteer organizations including the Peace Corps and JVC will be on hand in the University Center on April 5 to speak with students about opportunities in volunteering. Two days later, on April 7, the UC Forum will

house the traditional Career Expo where students can speak with employers of major companies and firms.

Amidst this context of decision-laden choices, the resounding message from both seniors and advisors alike is to start preparing for the future early, preferably before the senior year even begins.

Tarbox is quick to offer ad-

vice to current seniors who are scrambling to gain some footing on a stable future. "Allow [yourself] to enjoy [your] last semester because it's probably the last time that [you] are going to be in the community that [you're] in now... A lot of times people are so busy looking towards the future that they forget that this community isn't going to be here forever."



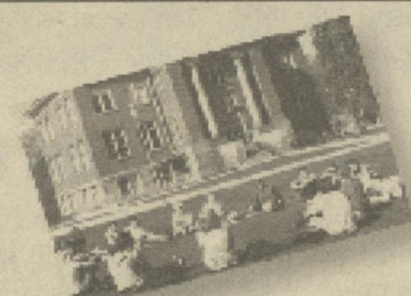
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## You can tell you live in 2005 when...

By Kenneth Creech  
STAFF WRITER

1. You accidentally enter your pin number on the microwave.
2. You haven't played solitaire with real cards in years.
3. You have a list of ten different phone numbers to reach your parents.
4. You e-mail the person who lives in the room across the hall.
5. Your reason for not staying in touch with friends and family back home is that they don't have e-mail addresses.
6. Every commercial on television has a website at the bottom of the screen.
7. Leaving your dorm without your cell phone makes you feel naked.
8. You get up in the morning and sign online before getting breakfast.
9. You start tilting your head sideways to smile :).
10. You're reading this and nodding and laughing.
11. All of your course syllabi are online, along with your classroom notes, books and exams.
12. You haven't used a stamp since they were 32 cents because you pay all of your bills online.
13. Your cell phone can be used as a camera, video camera, mp3 player, internet browser, calendar, alarm clock...oh, and for phone calls.

## Boy Scout membership fraud soils already tarnished reputation

By Kenneth Creech  
STAFF WRITER

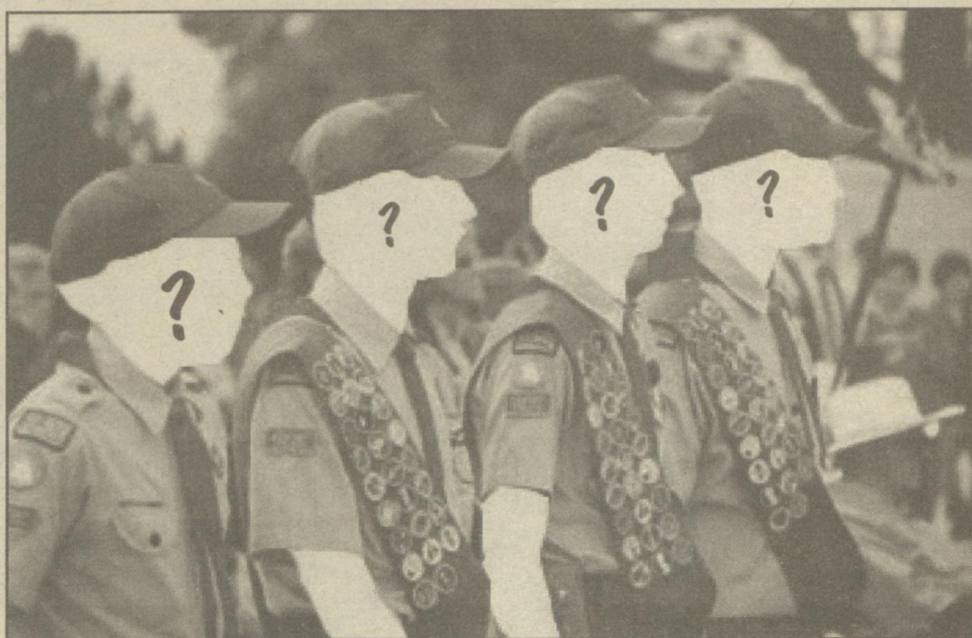
According to the Jan. 29 issue of *The Washington Post*, the Boy Scouts of America have been padding the number of members some of their chapters have in order to receive additional grants from private and public agencies, such as The United Way.

The Boy Scouts' membership has been consistently shrinking in number after a 2000 Supreme Court decision ruled that the Boy Scouts were within their rights to exclude people from becoming members based on their sexual orientation or religious affiliation.

I find this to be incredibly shocking and indeed a little sad as The Boy Scouts of America are supposed to be a group of men, young and old, who take an oath to be trustworthy. What many people miss is that they also take an oath to be thrifty, and apparently inflating membership numbers is the best way to save their own money.

Perhaps more disturbing than the false membership claims is the fact that the method used to create "ghost-members" was so blatant it should have been caught earlier. According to the same *Washington Post* article, one scout volunteer was given a list of names, meant to be a group of boys in Alabama. However, everyone on the list had the same last name, Doe.

With big business and corporate scandals abundant in the business world, it



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Where have all the boy scouts gone?

was only a matter of time before these financial misgivings would creep into the world of leisure as well. According to CNN, the FBI is looking into the membership records in Alabama, Texas and Georgia because of claims of faulty reporting.

In Atlanta, there are claims that the Boy Scouts have inflated the numbers of its African American members to 20,000 in order to gain extra donations. A civil rights leader, however, claims there are no more than 500 black members in the area.

It seems to me that if the Boy Scouts of America want to increase their membership so they can receive the extra

funding, they ought to open their doors, and minds, to those groups that they are currently denying. Refusing membership to the youth organization on the basis of religion or sexual orientation has been granted to the Boy Scouts, but has resulted in many cities banning them from using public meeting areas.

An all-inclusive membership policy would not only boost the number of people welcome to join, but would also increase the number of cities willing to allow the Boy Scouts to meet in public places. This would provide a possible win-win situation for the Boy Scouts, especially if they don't want to further soil their already tarnished reputation.

## Student's life takes a dirty turn

By Mike Minicilli  
STAFF WRITER

Christmas break taught me many lessons about life and above all of the opportunities we have to make something out of ourselves. Unfortunately, I was not really paying attention to any of those lessons.

In fact, all that I learned while I was practically decomposing in front of the television during my sedentary five-and-a-half week vacation is that it is physically impossible for an individual to go three or more days without showering and not smell like sour mayonnaise as a result.

No matter how inactive a person is, just the mere action of waking up and opening one's eyelids in the morning signals to the body's epidermis that, "Yes, this human being is indeed still alive and not rotting away like I thought, but he seriously needs to lather up and clean me before I secretly persuade his bladder to start revolting against him."

But really, what is showering anyway? When I was a child, "shower" simply meant covering oneself with a liquid substance for an extended period of time. Usually, this meant a 20-minute dip in

someone's pool at some point during the day. Of course, I had to redefine this interpretation of "shower" when I realized that my urinating in the pool while I was still swimming in it did not necessarily mean I was actually making my body any cleaner than it was before.

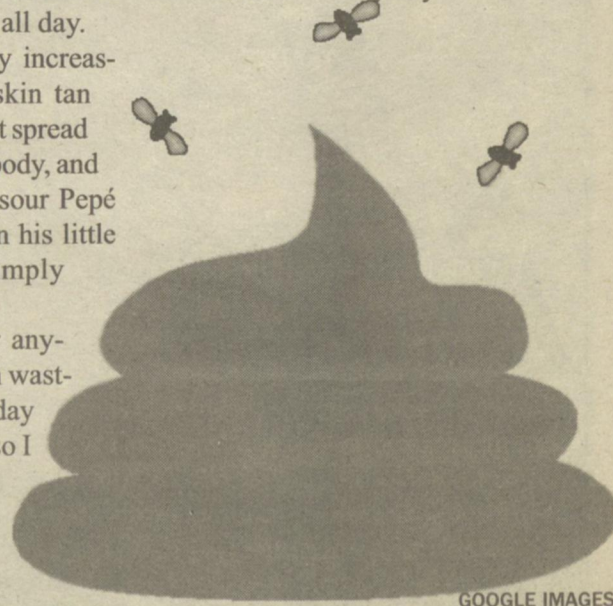
Naturally, I moved on to water balloons. However, this brief experiment was put to a halt by my mother, who got sick of witnessing me pick random pieces of rubber out of my ears and belly button while we sat at the dinner table. Call me crazy, but I kind of got used to smelling like a Goodyear tire all day.

But these days, despite my increasingly greasy hair, my faux skin tan composed of a thin layer of dirt spread evenly over every inch of my body, and the fact that my aroma is so sour Pepé Le Pew is probably turning in his little skunk grave right now, I simply refuse to shower.

No offense to bathtubs or anything, but there is no way I am wasting almost half an hour of my day inside a porcelain prison just so I can smell nice for my friends. Especially when those friends are immature, gaseous guys like myself who are just as

likely to fart on me as they are to giggle right after a flatulent display. Still, some people will say it is bad hygiene for me to walk around in my own filth and leave behind my nose-tingling scent. They will tell me that even laying around in a pool or lake is sufficient, but sitting around and doing nothing about my vile stench is not acceptable.

To those people I say, no thank you, the cleanly life is just not for me. So go ahead and swim in your big pool for all I care. Heck, I probably already urinated in there anyway.



GOOGLE IMAGES



## A look at Mardi Gras from a different angle



By Brooke McSpadden  
OPINION EDITOR

For most people Mardi Gras is synonymous with partying, New Orleans and shiny little beads. It is a time of celebration and sin, which is why it precedes lent.

On Feb. 8 thousands of people hit Bourbon Street partying in the name of Fat Tuesday. Most of them had contact with, among other things, Mardi Gras beads.

The celebration inspired many regularly upstanding women to expose themselves to obtain a cornucopia collection of beads which they then wore around their necks for the rest of the night.

This Mardi Gras tradition has made the beads into a symbol for the entire festival.

However, for a group of people living in China, these beads are a symbol of something entirely different. For those employed by the largest Mardi Gras

bead distributor in the world, these beaded necklaces are a symbol of their livelihood.

In the documentary, *Mardi Gras: Made in China*, filmmaker David Redmon examines the lives of four teenage girls working in one of these factories.

Redmon eventually bombards the factory workers with images of what the beads are used for.

The workers, who live in poverty and support themselves through their job creating the beads, cannot understand why anyone would expose their breasts to receive them in exchange. From their perspective, neither can I.

The filmmakers later project images of the factory workers on the walls of Bourbon street to receive reactions from party-goers in New Orleans who are just as shocked as to why anyone would work under poor conditions just to make the beads.

The party-goers don't want to be confronted with these images--no one really does. But that doesn't change the fact that these people do exist and that the little symbol of such a sinful celebration is, in itself, just as sinful.

The film poses a serious question for all of us: what are we doing in our daily lives that could be completely demoralizing to another culture that is either half away around the world, or just in our backyard?

## Education Secretary should teach tolerance



By Jen Rasmussen  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The newly appointed Secretary of Education is taking on a cartoon rabbit. Forget the dismal state of many of our country's public schools.

In her first official act as Secretary of Education, Margaret Spellings is butting heads with PBS, and more specifically, their children's cartoon series "Postcards from Buster." In an episode aired recently, Buster the rabbit and his friends visited a farm in Vermont that was run by two lesbian couples. Spellings, in a statement to the media, said, "Many parents would not want their children exposed to the lifestyles portrayed in the episode."

According to PBS's website, the educational philosophy of "Postcards from Buster" is, "To build awareness and appreciation of the many cultures of North America, and support elementary school-age English language learners." This is an admirable

goal, in an America that still suffers from prejudice and injustice based on genetic, predetermined characteristics, such as race, gender, and sexual orientation.

Instead of acknowledging the diversity of 21<sup>st</sup> century America, the religious right, with Spellings as temporary figurehead, is condemning anyone who doesn't fit into their antiquated cookie-cutter mold of the WASP. For example, Focus on the Family founder James Dobson commented that tolerance and diversity "are almost always buzzwords for homosexual advocacy." As he said, "Kids should not be taught that homosexuality is just another 'lifestyle' or that it is morally equivalent to heterosexuality."

This gross, unjustified judgement of others must stop. It is time that these groups acknowledge today's America and embrace its ever-changing nature.

GLAAD Executive Director Joan Garry, a lesbian raising three children with her partner, said it better than I can, when she said, "There are millions of kids living in households with two moms or two dads, and millions of other kids who know those kids," she said. "I wonder what James Dobson would say to my own children. What would be the respectful, Christian thing to say to them?"

# Letters to the editor

### Young marriage is unrealistic?

I find your article extremely jejune, based solely on bad experiences. You state that 43% of marriages end in divorce. So the more relevant statistic is that 57% remain married. You then state that "young love" unions make up a large portion of this 43%. If you found 43% to be relevant; can we assume that the "young love" statement is backed by similar statistical evidence? You further develop your argument with the assumption that a career change leads directly to divorce. Wow, did you take logic at USD? (It is required to graduate). Many, may I repeat, Many reasons go into a divorce; often including money, infidelity, etc. Not just a career change.

I love how you framed college as a bacchanalian festival. I am not sure with whom you spend your time, but I have never experienced this at USD. And, my dear, marriage is not based on circumstance. Life is circumstance. It is not circumstance that you decide to spend time with someone, a random occurrence that you just happen to end up at the same restaurant, same apartment or the same car with the same person on

a daily basis. Life might introduce you to an individual, but beyond this introduction your relationship is based on what each individual invests.

People change, circumstances change, careers change, but these in themselves are not the complete-in-full reasons that lead to a divorce. My parents were married before my mother was legally allowed to drink; yet they have recently celebrated their 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They have changed, careers have changed, heck, even states have changed as my family moved six times when I was a child. The difference is commitment. My parents were committed to each other, just as their vows stated. Marriage is for life. Period.

Shawn Eakle, junior

### The voice of a Sigma Chi

Losing Sigma Chi was one of the worst things that could've happened to me and my fellow fraternity brothers. Our chapter, Theta Lambda, was devastated with the final results that the Greek Student Judiciary Board nailed into us. Our members and pledges were at a party when the SDPD came in full force

with about 5 cop cars, paddy wagon, helicopter and handed out MIP's, MIC's and took some students to detox and the hospital. Partying and having fun is synonymous of being a college student, but there was more to it than that.

The Judiciary Board, which I was on before the incident, represents members of each Greek chapter, but doesn't represent the "Greek community." It hurts to know that our fellow friends and students "made a well-thought out decision" thinking it "was the best for the community as a whole." This comment is hypocritical because every fraternity and sorority has and will have alcohol involved at times and kids passing out and under age consumption. If they believe that our absence will strengthen the Greek community, they are sorely wrong.

Sigma Chi does not condone alcohol abuse, but kicking us off for a "party" where some students were intoxicated is down right sad. Sigma Chi is and was never just about partying; it was about brotherhood, however cliché that sounds.

For years we have been perceived as a black eye on the Greek system at USD, yet the school and it's students' perception of us doesn't void the great

contribution we made to this campus.

I'm sorry to every freshman living on campus that's always in fear of getting sent to detox for taking shots of Nyquil before bed. I'm extremely saddened for all the "would-be-freshmen-pledges" who will never get to experience OUR pledge process and our traditions.

Nick Osgood, junior

**Do you  
have  
something  
to say?  
Write a letter  
to the editor.**

[vista@sandiego.edu](mailto:vista@sandiego.edu)



# A Sundance Intersession

By Heather DePriest  
 STAFF WRITER

THE CHANCE TO MINGLE WITH CELEBRITIES, HANG OUT WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND SEE A BUNCH OF GREAT INDEPENDENT FILMS. NOT TO MENTION, YOU GET CREDIT FOR IT. I'M REFERRING TO THE LATEST USD INTERSESSION CLASS THAT INVOLVES STUDYING FILM AT THE SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL.

## THE CLASS

The class came about when Dr. Pace and Dr. Pierson recognized that there was no better way to teach students about independent cinema than to expose them to it firsthand. They recognized that students could really benefit from "such a rich learning environment where they could interact with film professionals." With this in mind, and student interest evident, the planning began.

Dr. Pace said there were many logistics to work through in the beginning, because neither he nor Dr. Pierson had ever undertaken anything like this. "We weren't sure about housing, transportation or tickets," Pierson said.

The class began when students arrived in Park City, Utah four days prior to the Sundance Film Festival. During this time, they had class twice a day to prepare themselves for the films. Once the festival began, they were required to see films, attend panel discussions, and write papers.

Student response to the Sundance experience was overwhelmingly positive. "I do believe that I learned more in two weeks than I would have in a semester," Junior Justin Franklin said. Additionally, fifth year senior Adam Bridges said, "The Sundance class was without a doubt the best experience ever in my academic career. I am so grateful to the dean and everyone who made this experience possible." The class received such a positive response that Dr. Pace and Dr. Pierson have already begun the planning for next year's class.

## THE FILMS

There were many films that the class members enjoyed. One such film was American Dramatic Audience Award Winner *Hustle and Flow*. Written and directed by Craig Brewer with a cast of unknowns, *Hustle and Flow* tells the story of a pimp's dream to become a rap artist and his journey to accomplish this. "[It] was the most powerful, interesting, intriguing, and brilliant film," senior Kate Linden said.

Other students had different favorites. "I would highly recommend seeing *Brick* out of all of them, because it really was a well done, intriguing, suspenseful movie," USD student Christine D Salvo said. Written and directed by Rian Johnson and starring Joseph Gordon-Levitt, *Brick* follows the story of a high school outsider's investigation into his girlfriend's death.

Both Dr. Pace and Dr. Pierson were big fans of the documentary films at the festival. "The documentary films were really strong and covered interesting subject matter," Pierson said. In particular, *Grizzly Man*, directed by Werner Herzog, follows the fascinating life of Timothy Treadwell. Treadwell was an explorer and author who lived among the Alaskan grizzlies. The film was made even more intriguing by Herzog's use of Treadwell's own video footage.

Linden also praised *Loverboy*. It stars Kyra Sedgwick and was directed by her husband Kevin Bacon. "I wouldn't be surprised if Sedgwick was nominated for an Academy Award next year," Linden said. The movie follows a woman's journey to have a child by any means necessary. The movie embodies self-love and motherly love while addressing the challenge of single parenthood.

Another film that stood out for many in the class was one produced by former USD student Billy Rovzar. "It was inspiring seeing one of our own USD grads produce a film," Franklin said. Rovzar's film, entitled *Mantando Cabos*, is a comedy full of mistaken identities, kidnappings and craziness. The chance to talk to Rovzar at the festival was a highlight for many USD students.

## THE STORIES

All of the students enjoyed the class immensely. Bridges said, "This class gave us real life experience in making movies. It was also the most fun class in the history of the University of San Diego courses. How many other courses can you take where you can meet celebrities like Elijah Wood, Jenny McCarthy, Steve Buscemi, and Erika Christensen?"

These were just some of the celebrities that USD students came into contact with while at Sundance. Jenny McCarthy's bodyguard gave one student a ride home. Other students had chatted with director Kevin Smith. All these students recieved college credit for meeting celebrated actors and directors.

Franklin shared the funny story of his attempt to get a picture with Keira Knightley. "When I asked Keira Knightly to take a picture with me, she said she was in a bit of a run, so I told her I would run with her." She commented in her cute English accent, 'You're going to run with me?' Then she laughed and said, 'Of course I will take the picture with you!'"

DeSalvo told me the "talk of the trip" was that "Dr. Pace wants to change his name to a clever one syllable name that would distinguish him among filmmakers. He chose the name 'Squash,'" DeSalvo said.

All in all, USD offered students a unique opportunity to experience film with the professionals. Hopefully programs like this will continue, inspiring the filmmakers of tomorrow.



PHOTO BY ADAM BRIDGES

The class poses beneath the snow-covered mountains of Park City.



PHOTO BY ADAM BRIDGES

Justin Franklin shares a moment with Jenny McCarthy.



PHOTO BY ADAM BRIDGES

Adam Bridges and Elijah Wood smile for the camera.





# Meet the new addition to the family

By John Nunes  
 STAFF WRITER

Everywhere you look on campus, students have caught a case of iPod fever. It's hard to walk from the Peace and Justice building to the UC without seeing half a dozen of the signature white earbud cords dangling from the ears of fellow music lovers. At the MacWorld Expo in San Francisco last month, Apple's Steve Jobs gave music lovers another reason to sport the white earbuds: the newest member of the iPod family, the iPod Shuffle.

The iPod Shuffle was designed with a few basic ideas in mind. First, the price of the original iPod and iPod mini has made them out of reach for many people who want the advantage of having their music on a small digital device, but don't have the cash. Second, many people use their iPods for high impact activities, usually running, for which the hard drive based iPods are not made, both because of weight and more importantly the moving parts inside.

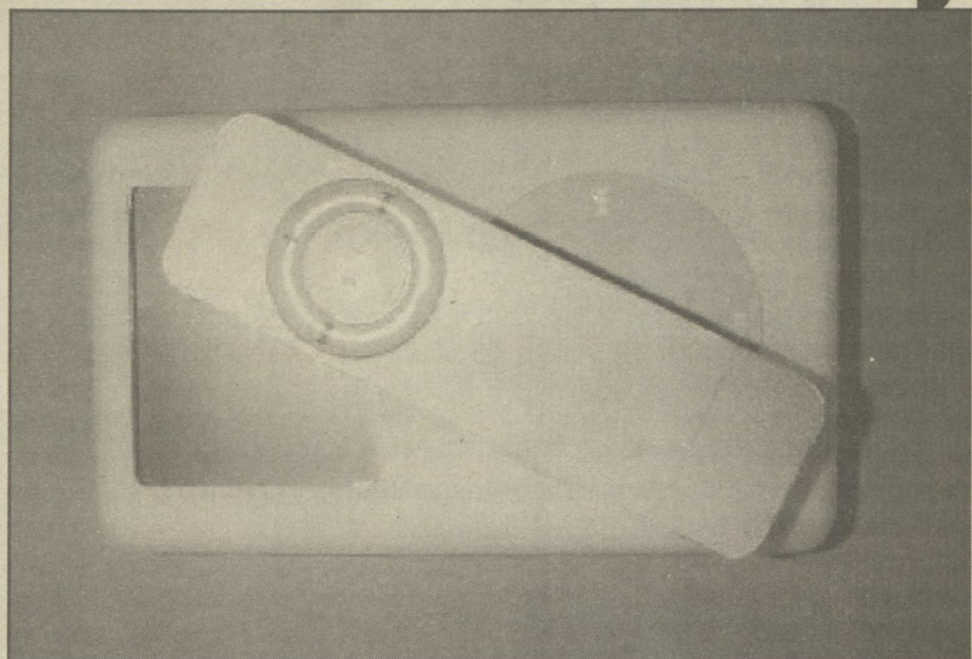
The iPod Shuffle has a few notice-

able differences from the others in the iPod family. Most obvious is the lack of a screen. This modification allows the Shuffle to be smaller and lighter. It is less than half an inch thick and weighs less than an ounce.

The Shuffle has 12 hours of battery life and can hold its charge for a month. It comes in two models: 512-megabyte, 120 song version which costs \$99, and a 1 gigabyte, 240 song version which costs \$149. Students can save \$10 off 1GB models, by purchasing their Shuffle from the USD bookstore or the Apple Store at Fashion Valley Mall.

The Shuffle is similar to the other iPods in that it has a simple interface and allows the listener to play/pause, skip forward and back, and control volume. A switch on the back allows the user to switch between listening to the music in shuffle (random play) or continuous mode.

To add music to the Shuffle, all one needs to do is plug it into a USB port on a Mac or Windows XP or 2000 PC. The Shuffle can also be used to store non-music files for easy transport between computers.



AMY ENGLISH

The new iPod Shuffle, shown here, is a great alternative to previous, more costly models.

The iPod Shuffle is a great offering for people who want to see what all of the hype is about, but are skeptical of the \$229 price tag of the larger, 1000 song iPod mini.

If you want to be able to find any one of thousands of songs while on the go, then one of the larger iPods may be

for you. However, the ultra-lightweight and completely skip-free playback of the iPod Shuffle makes it a perfect fit for the more active music enthusiast. At \$99 it is even practical as a second iPod for someone who feels like their 40 gigabyte model is weighing them down at the gym.

## DiFranco album knuckled down

By Nick Stark  
 STAFF WRITER

Most people have never heard of Ani DiFranco, much less know anything about her musical career. The reason behind this is that DiFranco has done everything independently. She started and maintained her career without any help from a major label which means no promotional aid, no guaranteed rotation on MTV, and less radio airplay.

Starting when she was ten, DiFranco began writing songs and performing in various venues throughout the Northeast. So, what is the big deal? DiFranco has just released *Knuckle Down* which has been proclaimed her "breakthrough album." *Knuckle Down* is a collection of twelve songs. The problem is they all sound the same. While DiFranco is considered an "urban folk" artist, she takes her sound to the extreme in this album.

DiFranco is accompanied many times by only a folk guitar, with the occasional background drums and bass. But it is not enough. Even DiFranco's voice, which is pleasing to the ear at first, becomes monotonous after extended listening. The quality of the sound recording makes the CD sound like DiFranco is singing in the corner of the room.

The lyrics on the album are no better. DiFranco, an open bisexual and feminist, sings about the same things over and over. It is artistically liberating for an artist to comment on sexuality and feminism like DiFranco does on one track called, "Callous." However, DiFranco continues to express her feelings quite graphically throughout other songs making the listener think, "Wait, what was



RIGHTEOUS BABE RECORDS

Ani DiFranco's new release *Knuckle Down* is in stores now.

that she just said?" while scrambling for the lyrics booklet. In addition to the feminist and sexual songs are the usual, uninspiring love songs, and then the hopeless "pity-me" songs.

While there are many bad things about *Knuckle Down*, there are a few positive aspects. DiFranco utilizes a string section on several tracks, such as "Lag Time," which adds substance to an otherwise virtually non-existent band. DiFranco ventures into spoken-word vocals for one song, "Parameters," which is interesting, but not enough to save the album.

Current fans of DiFranco will probably love *Knuckle Down* as it offers the same indie/folk presence that made her famous in the first place. However, this album is nothing revolutionary neither musically nor lyrically, and will most likely fail to evoke a positive response from the public.

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# Oberst to bring lyrics to SD

By Lindsey Spinelli  
STAFF WRITER

Conor Oberst, 24-year-old singer/songwriter, is independent music's newest shining star. Bright Eyes, his current project, will be performing at San Diego's Spreckles Theater on Feb. 11. Oberst has been gaining recognition for his poetry and his convictions. Refusing to play for any venue owned by Clear Channel, it is clear that Oberst is a purist, who openly criticizes the conglomerate's affect on the music industry.

His raspy voice, the social awareness of his lyrics, and his folk sound are reminiscent of Bob Dylan. Shrouded with such promising potential, Oberst is worth a second glance.

Oberst, a native of Nebraska, has been making music since age 13. He started out with the band Commander Venus, releasing two albums before their eventual break up. The band itself did not survive, but the record label they created, Saddle Creek, has flourished. Bright Eyes, one of the label's most notable bands, released two new CDs on January 24, *Digital Ash In A Digital Urn* and *I'm Wide Awake It's Morning*.

In writing this review I spent the week listening to only the January releases. The CD's were in rotation in my car, and the mp3's were the constant play list on my computer. Until last night, I had no idea what to write. The sound was not amazing, the lyrics, while socially pertinent, were inconsistent. Songs about finding true love such as, "First Day of My Life" would be interrupted by complaints about the war in Iraq. Overall, the albums failed to entertain my peripheral attention. I did not really hear the music until I gave it my entire focus. I put down



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRITISHPUNK.COM

Conor Oberst, who has been acclaimed by the music world for his insightful lyrics, heads to Spreckles Theater on February 11.

my homework and just listened.

Bright Eyes is a band that demands attention. It is not meant to be played in the background of a scene, or of your life. It is meant to be played in the foreground to trigger contemplation. The music is meant to stir you to reflect upon an idea and solidify it in order to point out the irony of life, and to speak about the truths we all feel. It is the passion and thought put into the lyrics that gives the music power.

The unpolished nature of Oberst's music is what gives it its authenticity and uniquely indie sound. It is clear that the talent behind the music grows out of the singer/songwriter, and is not modified by producers or sound engineers.

While each song has an element of genius, few of them actually live up to

their potential. Most songs on these two albums have strokes of genius but are primarily incongruent. The continuity that arises in a sound studio monitored by a massive record company is not there. It is this flawed genius, the organic nature of this album, that reveals Oberst's talent and potential making the music worthwhile.

With so many cookie-cutter bands out there, it is refreshing to see a band with a unique and creative style that actually has something to say. Given the organic nature of this music I think it is safe to assume Bright Eyes will deliver a great performance. This music is meant to be played live, and a concert involves the kind of mental commitment that is needed to fully absorb and appreciate this music.

## Modest Mouse shines at SOMA

By Jordan Brant  
STAFF WRITER

Modest Mouse, recently finding mainstream success with the release of their 2004 LP *Good News for People who Love Bad News*, played two sold-out shows last Saturday and Sunday nights at the all-ages venue SOMA.

In attendance were Converse-clad teenagers and twenty-somethings Sunday night as the band revitalized the gloomy San Diego night.

Modest Mouse has risen from the ashes of an emo-infused, pop-culture wave of music to brand their own unique style of hard-rock mixed with a bluesy, almost folk-rock edge.

Their unique music, which blends genres and styles in each of their songs, seamlessly unites old-school underground fans with a younger and hipper crowd eager to find music that is different and edgy.

Hailing from Issaquah, WA, a suburb of Seattle, Modest Mouse was formed in 1993 by vocalist/guitarist Isaac Brock, bassist Eric Judy, and drummer Jeremiah Green.

With their drummer donning a Halloween mask, the band took to the stage, which was a virtual playground



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Modest Mouse performed a two night gig at SOMA Feb. 4 and 5.

of instruments including pianos, synthesizers, two drum-sets, cowbells, a cello and a banjo.

Brock's powerful and dramatic voice is somewhat the signature of the band. His full-range vocals are deep and hearty and contain a folk-rock twang that gives his voice an almost sarcastic edge.

The band's lyrics, which are cynical and nonchalant, often question life and death and heaven and hell. They sing of how the world will end and they often provide their own unique perceptions of the world around them.

The crowd, who were generally younger than the 30-something members of the band, seemed almost disillusioned when the band opened up with their older music.

But as soon as they played "Ocean Breathes Salty," one of the two singles from their most recent album, the crowd quickly started grooving to the mellow song.

While their hit "Float On," played, their most popular song, some older members of the crowd stood staunchly with their thumbs pointed down, probably displeased with the mainstream success of their favorite underground indie-rock band.

Over all, the show was a success. Modest Mouse has forged their name in indie-rock and critics should expect them to be around for a long time.

With the members of the band having a colorful past, including trailer-parks, late-night brawls and a ten-year career as an underground rock band, they are sure to continue making music that is edgy, unique and purely rock-n-roll.

Their newest album, released in April of 2004, was made available courtesy of Epic Records. It is now available for purchase at music stores all over San Diego.

## Wedding Date a charming comedy

By Christie O'Keefe  
STAFF WRITER

If you were to cross *Pretty Woman* and *My Best Friend's Wedding*, the outcome would be *The Wedding Date*. Focusing more on character than on the typical romantic comedy's warm and fuzzies, *The Wedding Date* makes a charmingly refreshing chick flick.

Deborah Messing plays Kat, an airline employee living in New York City. In a desperate attempt to appear happy and successful in front of her family, she hires Nick, a male escort played by Dermot Mulroney, to accompany her to her younger sister's wedding in London. To make matters worse for Kat, her ex-fiancé, who she still gazes at longingly in pictures, is the best man.

Playing Kat, Messing doesn't stray very far from her popular character, Grace, on NBC's *Will and Grace*. Kat is neurotic, self-conscious, and awkward, but instead of being annoying, these qualities make her endearing.

Between her mother, who can't help divulging every humiliating detail of her life, and her sister, who is so self-centered that all she can do is bask in the bridal limelight, you start to feel sorry for Kat and understand why she felt it necessary to take \$6,000 out of her IRA in order to avoid showing up at the wedding alone.

Mulroney's Nick is the perfect balance to Kat. He is suave, mellow and charming. As an escort, we assume that he's been involved with countless women, providing justification for the endless stream of relationship advice he gives to just about everyone he meets. Kat describes him as the, "Yoda of escorts," and besides her loving stepfather, he is pretty much the only logical person in her life.

Upon arrival in London, Nick meets Kat's crazy family and shares her old bedroom with her, providing plenty of chuckle-worthy moments involving pillow forts, showers and microphones mixed with alcohol. Also, Kat's feisty cousin, TJ, provides some of the raunchier comic relief.

However, it's not all about laughing and romance in this movie, which is what sets it apart from other chick flicks. At the beginning, you think you know exactly how everyone is going to end up because you assume that this is just another romantic comedy. Not quite. By the halfway point, an unexpected plot twist makes you rethink how things will turn out.

Overall, *The Wedding Date* is worth seeing in the theater or at least renting in a few months.



## Kite Runner deserves acclaim

*Khaled Hosseini's first novel is a major success and a great read*

By Natalie Zanzucchi  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Khaled Hosseini's debut novel, *Kite Runner*, is a masterpiece of literature as well as emotion. Hosseini masters the art of dealing with intense emotions and portraying an entire culture through the story of his characters. His novel is so compelling it is trying to remember that the story is a novel and not Hosseini's memoirs.

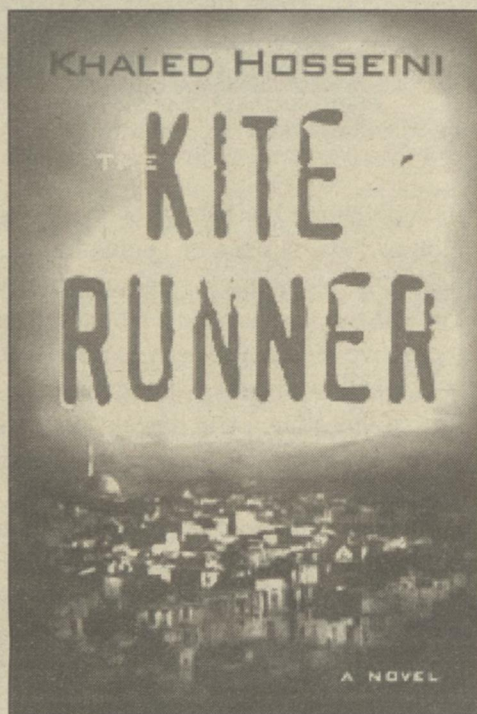
An Afghan immigrant to the U.S. himself, Hosseini has the ability to share his home's culture with an entirely new audience. His story tugs on the sympathies of Americans who may have previously overlooked the reality of life in a country wrought with political turmoil.

The story is of two boys, Amir and Hassan, who despite immense differences are best friends. Amir is the son of rich and important Afghani man while Hassan is the son of their loyal servant. The story of the boys illustrates the values of the Afghan culture and their experience should serve as reminder to us all that we share some common human existence.

The author's website, [www.khaledhosseini.com](http://www.khaledhosseini.com), explains *Kite Runner* as "an epic tale of fathers and sons, of friendship and betrayal, that takes us from the final days of Afghanistan's monarchy to the atrocities of the present." This novel is precisely that, an

epic tale. Hosseini uses Afghanistan's history merely as a background for his story which serves to emphasize the idea that these atrocities are suffered not by a few people in some far off land, but that affect everyone in a way that we all can find some connection with.

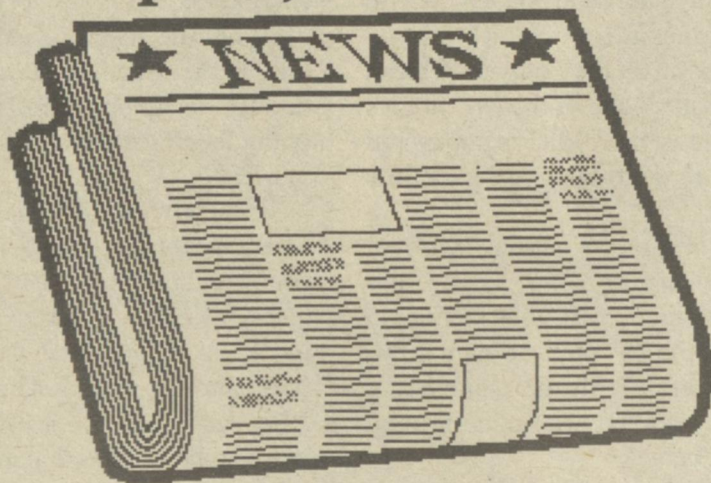
*Kite Runner* is an eye-opening experience put in black and white. Hosseini is a beautiful writer and has reached incredible feats with his first novel. *Kite Runner* is a longstanding novel on the New York Times Bestseller List and is a story heralded as fantastic by its many readers.



[WWW.KHALEDHOSSEINI.COM](http://WWW.KHALEDHOSSEINI.COM)

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# IM season on the horizon

By Tina Novak  
 INTRAMURAL STAFF

Game on! Today, with the closing of men's and women's 5x5 basketball sign ups, kicking off yet another exciting season of USD intramural sports!

Men's 5x5 basketball is always an exciting league, and this season the competition is as fierce as ever. Come check it out in the Sports Center gym, Monday through Wednesday nights from 8-11 p.m. beginning Feb. 14.

Word on the street for women's 5x5 basketball, says that with the graduation of many key players on the Hawaiian Ballers, the position of league champion is up for grabs.

Service! CoRec volleyball blasts off this coming week as well, with their 7 p.m. Monday and Wednesday night games. Will Git-R-Done defend their title as IM Volleyball Champs or will Called to Serve spike them out of competition?

Next week holds the sign ups for the Men's Air-It-Out Football and CoRec Speed Soccer leagues.

Men's Air-It-Out Football league will be held Wednesday nights, 6-11 p.m.

So sign up your team, or head down the Manchester field with your pom-poms and cheer these teams on.

Thursday night CoRec speed soccer kicks off Feb. 24 at 7:00 p.m. Rally yourself a team of guys and gals and come kick it with us down at Manchester field.

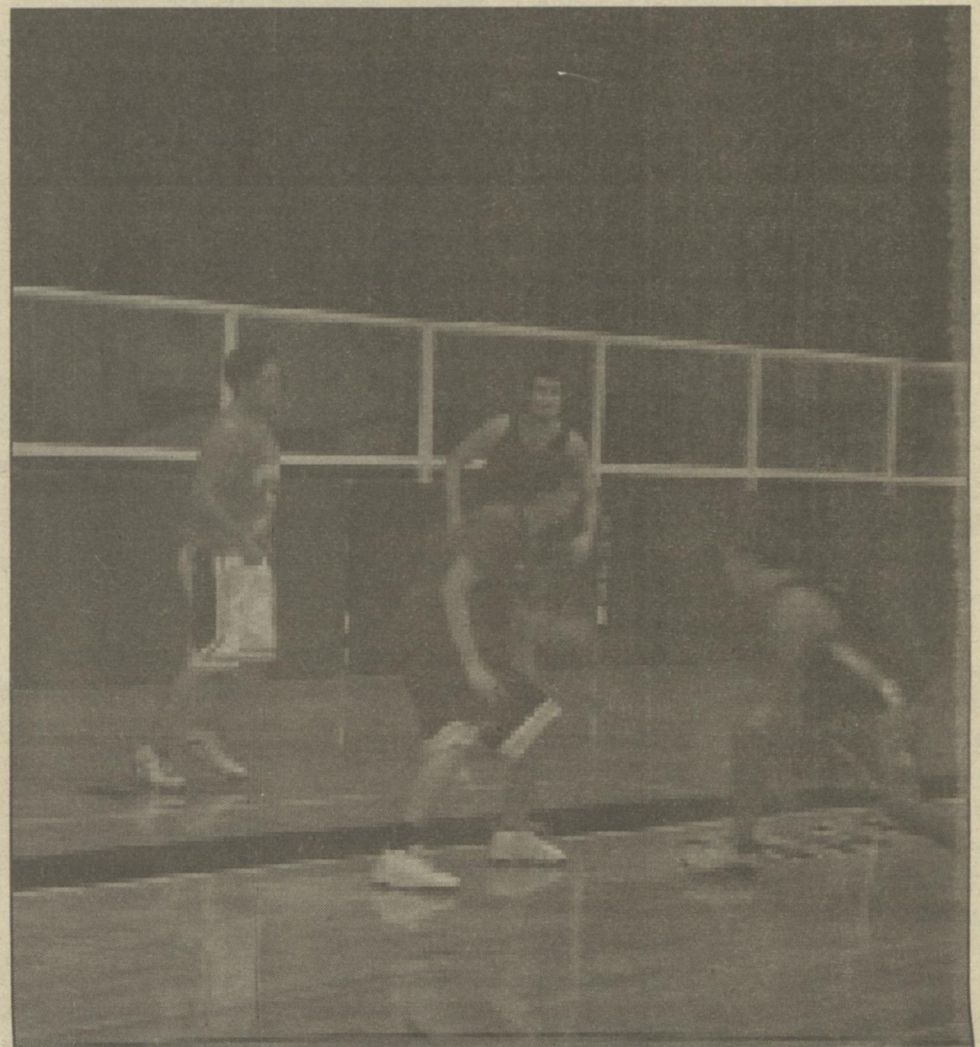
Grab your sunflower seeds and come play men's or CoRec softball Monday or Tuesday nights! Sign ups for these leagues will be held the week of Feb. 21.

You thought that sounded exciting, how about ultimate frisbee Wednesday nights? Come join us at the Valley field for an ultimate time.

Other leagues on the horizon are team tennis, residence hall kickball and inner tube water polo.

USD Intramurals is also offering four exciting tournaments throughout the semester, including ping pong, 2x2 scramble golf, 4x4 men's/women's beach volleyball, and 2x2 horseshoes.

So whatever your flavor is this semester, USD Campus Recreation has something for you. Grab your friends, pump up your team spirit, and come score a good time!



JEREMY DARNER

The USD Sports Center is set to host USD Intramural Basketball action this spring.

## Slopes get record snow

### Hitch a ride to the mountains for fresh tracks

By Jeremy Darnar  
 RECREATION STAFF

Recent killer storms have dumped fresh snow on local mountains leaving three to five feet of packed powder for skiers and snow boarders to tear up the mountain on.

In anticipation, your chariot awaits. For a mere 73 bucks you can book a seat on the party bus up to Big Bear Mountain and score yourself a full day lift ticket. The bus leaves Feb. 27 at 5:30 a.m. sharp, gettin' you on the mountain by 9 a.m.

Take your pick of the Snow Summit or Bear Mountain slopes with a free shuttle running every ten minutes. The snowboard park is open and the super-pipe awaits. Bring your gear or rent it up there. The mountain closes at 4 p.m. and the bus will have you back by 8 p.m.

Tickets are on sale through Feb. 18 or until space runs out at the Campus Recreation office in the USD Sports Center. Call the office at ext. 4533 for more details!



WWW.BIGBEARMTN.COM

A Big Bear snowboarder catches air.

## RECREATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

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# WCC emergence cannot stop USD

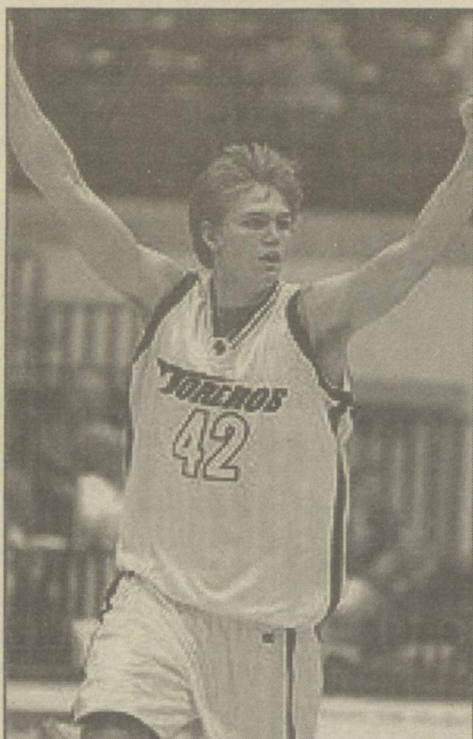
By Anthony Gentile  
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

With the success of Gonzaga in the NCAA tournament, West Coast Conference (WCC) men's basketball has gained notable national recognition over the past half-decade. However, aside from the strong postseason play of the Bulldogs during this period, much of the conference has been overlooked, but that could change this season.

In one of the strongest years of WCC men's basketball in recent history, every team after this weekend's play with a .500 or better overall record. In addition, only four games separated the best conference record (7-2, held by Saint Mary's and Gonzaga) from the worst (Pepperdine and Loyola Marymount are both 3-6). With just over half of the conference season completed, the WCC regular season title is still largely up for grabs.

The emergence of the WCC was witnessed across the nation this season as its teams have beaten ranked opponents North Carolina, Georgia Tech, Washington, Oklahoma State, and Wisconsin. Through Sunday's games, the WCC was ranked as the seventh-best conference in the nation, the highest of the non-major conferences.

Most notable is the fact that it is possible for the WCC to do something this season that has never happened in its history; it could send three teams to the



USDTOREROS.COM  
Senior Nick Lewis led San Diego with 28 points against Pepperdine.

NCAA tournament. Last week, ESPN.com's Bracketology with Joe Lunardi, which has been accurate in projecting the tournament field, last had Gonzaga and Saint Mary's in the tournament, with San Francisco as the 69th team (only 65 advance). With this postseason possibility much excitement surrounds the WCC as it looks to further establish itself as nationally competitive.

After an early 22-10 lead midway through the first half, it looked as if the

Toreros would win with ease. However, the Lions roared back, and had a six-point lead with two minutes remaining in the half. Two quick Torero baskets, one by junior shooting guard Corey Belser, and a fadeaway jump shot at the buzzer by senior forward Brandon Gay, cut the LMU lead to only two heading into the locker room.

Similar to the first twenty minutes of play, USD sprinted out of the gates in the second half, and a 9-0 run put them ahead 41-36. This time, USD built a lead that they would not surrender, as they never trailed in the final 17 minutes of action.

After a Dustin Brown three-pointer cut USD's lead to 48-45, the Toreros scared off seven straight points, five of which belonged to sophomore point guard Ross DeRogatis, pushing the lead to ten points with just under 11 minutes to play. With 4:33 remaining and again only a three-point lead, Toreros' senior center Brice Vounang answered with a three-point play, giving USD a 63-57 lead. From there, the Toreros would close out the Lions, winning 77-70.

Gay paced the offense in the first half, and finished with 22 points. Vounang (18 points, 10 rebounds) and forward Nick Lewis (16 points, 5 rebounds) turned in solid efforts as well, and DeRogatis (8 points, 5 assists) controlled the tempo.

In honor of the second annual Coaches Versus Cancer Awareness weekend, coaches in the Wild Wild West Coast

Conference shootout, against Pepperdine joined hundreds of others across the nation by wearing white sneakers on Saturday. USD's Lewis showed his support on the hardwood with a white-hot first half. The junior forward accounted for 11 of the team's first 20 points, sank 4 three-pointers, and finished the half with 22 points. The Toreros' strong shooting from downtown (9-of-15) was matched with uptempo play by the Waves, resulting in a competition knotted at 48 at halftime.

A strong effort by Gay helped the Toreros climb back even with the Waves after falling behind with a cold opening second half, and his 3-pointer with 2:30 remaining tied the contest at 84.

With 1:45 left, Belser hit a three-pointer that gave USD an 87-84 lead. After a Glen McGowan slam for the Waves and a Vounang free throw, Pepperdine's Alex Acker evened the score at 88 with two of his game-high 31 points. On the ensuing possession, Gay hit the shot of the game, a three-point bomb with 25.8 seconds to go, putting USD up for good 91-88. USD took a 92-88 victory over the boys from Malibu.

In a conference showing much improvement on the national stage, the Torero men's basketball team has met this challenge, making the 2003-2004 season a distant memory. With the conference tournament less than a month away, USD looks to close out the regular season strong.

Cont. from UFC, page 16

ground battle with some good sweeps by Sell and excellent takedowns by Baroni. Sell finishes the fight in the last minute of Round three, when a purple-faced Baroni tapped out in a guillotine choke.

At last, the main event between Vitor Belfort and Tito Ortiz came with mixed predictions as to who would win.

His unbelievably explosive punches that were able to knock down the legendary Chuck "Iceman" Liddell, are two of the things that have earned Belfort his nickname, "Phenom."

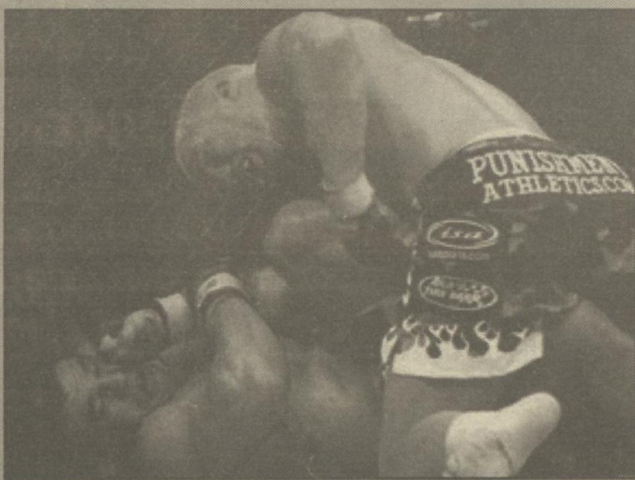
On the other hand, Tito Ortiz has often been called "the poster boy of the UFC" because he has fought some of the best in the octagon and more often than not, he walks his talk.

His mixed martial arts record of 12 wins and two losses is the same as Belfort's, but it is important to consider that Ortiz's only two losses have been to two UFC legends, Randy Couture and Chuck Liddell.

Every match up in the UFC 51 fight card made it difficult to predict an outcome, but the main event delivered even more surprises. The light heavyweight bout was scheduled for three five-minute rounds and lasted just that. The longer the struggle between Belfort and Ortiz, the harder it was to predict

who would win.

Round one was a tossup between both fighters, with Belfort dominating in the beginning with several explosive



Tito and Vitor's match this weekend was anticipated for the past three years. The tickets sold for thousands of dollars on ebay days before the bout.

series of punches in a forward attack on Ortiz. The second half was taken over by Ortiz when he got into Belfort's butterfly guard, until Ortiz started bleeding from the nose.

The fight almost seemed to be over at Round two when Belfort secured Ortiz into a guillotine choke while on the ground, but Ortiz managed to slip out in time to get Belfort in his guard.

Round three began with both fighters grappling against the cage, with Ortiz caught in an exhausted Belfort's defensive guard. Although Ortiz had taken his fair share of punches to the face by the end of the fight, his ability to throw powerful short-distance elbows from the guard is what won him the light heavyweight bout by split-decision.

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The Vista wishes to acknowledge that the type setting error in the LifeMAX® Medical Group advertisement in the September 23rd issue was caused by technical errors at the Vista. LifeMAX® Medical Group bears no responsibility, and the mistake should not be inferred as representing the quality of their products or services.



# At \$80,000 a second, these commercials better be good



By Chris Ferraro  
SPORTS EDITOR

At my very own Super Bowl party there were two types of people: the ones who were there to watch the game, and the ones who were there to watch the commercials. Personally, I could not have asked for anything more exciting than a 24-21 game, but I cannot lie when I say I loved a lot of the commercials. They were certainly not as spicy as past years, which can be blamed on the most infamous costume malfunction in fashion history. However, there was no shortage of laughter from this year's group. So bear with me one more time, as I roll out the top commercials from this year's Super Bowl. You might actually enjoy reading about them since they might have been a little fuzzy the first time you saw them.

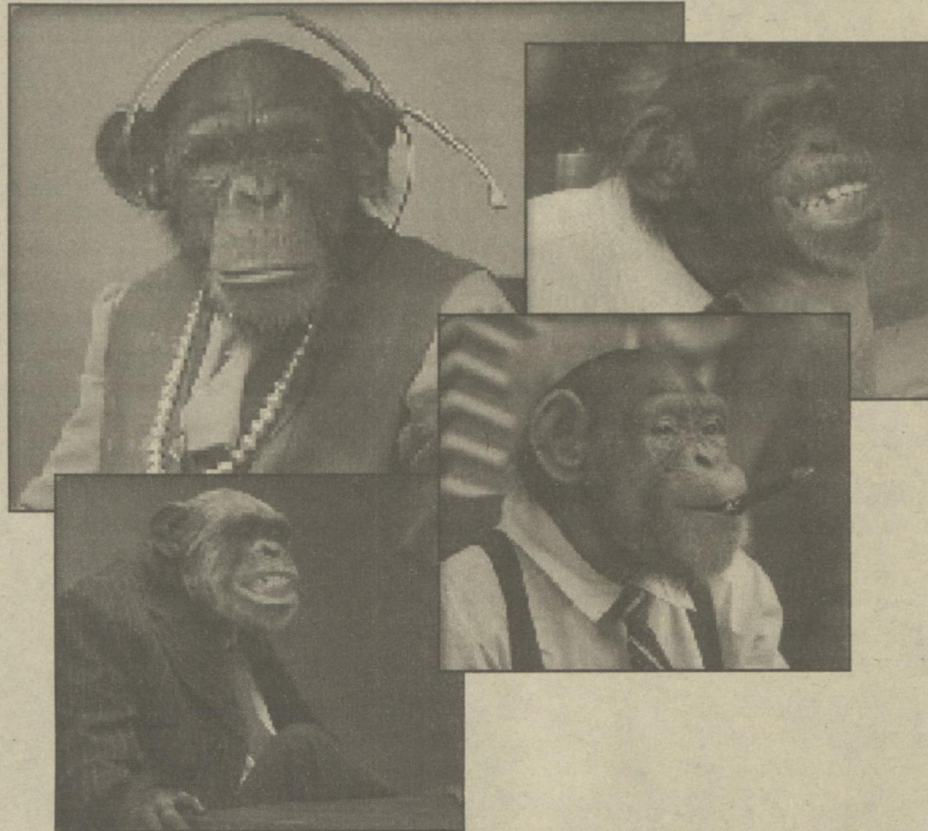
Number 8 – Visa. After a woman screams because she lost her purse, several famous superheroes arrive at the scene to help. When she says it was her Visa check card she lost, they all become sad because Visa will not charge you for charges made after your card is stolen, so their heroism is not necessary.

Number 7 – GoDaddy.com. This ad was so good that my roommate ran to the computer and bought his own website before it could end. This one played off of the Janet Jackson fiasco last year.

Number 6 – Lay's. Whenever you run

an ad that includes MC Hammer doing "U Can't Touch This" in hammer pants, it has to be a winner. What is even more amazing is that MC Hammer is so broke that he was willing to make fun of his nineties success for a buck. Jaleel White, where are you now?

Number 5 – Careerbuilder.com. I liked



The Careerbuilder.com monkeys were as effective as they were cute.

these newcomers because they stuck with the same scenario in three different ads, each a little better than the last. The idea was that the main character needed a new

job because the one he has now is being run by monkeys. In reality, he works with chimps dressed in suits. Chimps and suits. My inner seventh-grader loved every second of it.

Number 4 – FedEx-Kinko's. This one was amazing, as they decided to mock other commercials and show the ten ways

song, a kick in the groin, and other typical jokes and gags. I already laughed out loud at it the second and third time I saw it.

Number 3 – Diet Pepsi. Puff Daddy is stranded in the desert on his way to an awards show. A Diet Pepsi truck driver is kind enough to give P a ride. All of a sudden throughout Hollywood, people are driving Pepsi Trucks since it's "Puff's New Ride". Great commercial that includes Carson Daly driving down Rodeo in his own lifted truck.

Number 2 – Ameriquest. Explaining this commercial would not do it justice. A man on his cell phone is in a liquor store when he says to his friend on the phone "you're being robbed." The man at the stand does not see the cell phone ear attachment, and hits the man with mace. He is then hit with both a baseball bat and a cattle prod from a crazy eyed woman running down one of the aisles. A real kneeslapper.

Number 1 – Bud Light. If you have not seen it yet, you really are missing out at some true creative genius. Two friends are about to go skydiving. The first is afraid to jump out of the plane, so his friend tells him that he has to jump to save his Bud Light six pack as he throws it from the plane. The first man is still fearful to jump, and the commercial seems rather boring. Suddenly, the pilot comes running from the cockpit and leaps from the plane short a parachute. The second friend follows the pilot out the open door, and an uproar of laughter filled every Super Bowl party in America.

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Questions? Contact Kelsey at [kwebster@sandiego.edu](mailto:kwebster@sandiego.edu).  
Applications are due Wednesday, February 23rd!

## A summer business program for non-business majors

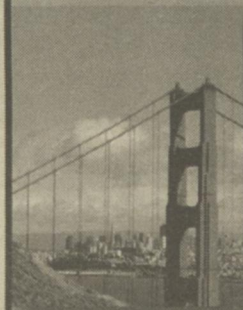
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# Patriots: A dynasty in the making

By Charlie Farra  
 STAFF WRITER

Jacksonville, Florida: the site of Super Bowl XXIX. It was where the defending champion New England Patriots, led by "dreamboat" Tom Brady, clashed heads with the Philadelphia Eagles who, after three years of falling short in the NFC championship, finally made it to the big game.

Going into the Super Bowl, everyone was wondering if All-Pro Eagles' wide receiver Terrell Owens would be able to play.

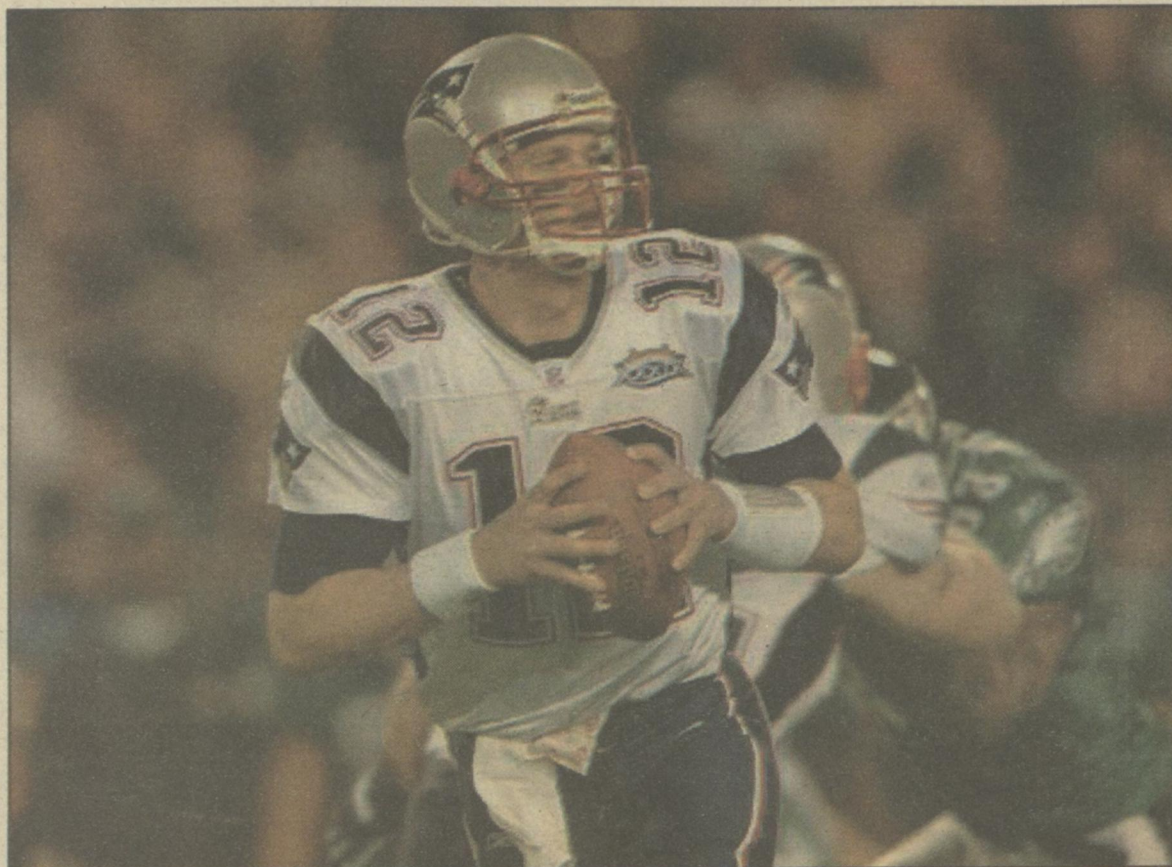
The health of one man had become a bigger story than the game itself. He assured reporters earlier in the week that while he might have only felt 81% at the time, when the game rolled around he would be at 181%. His confidence, or cockiness, could be one of the reasons that the Eagles had such great success this season.

The first quarter was a defensive battle that ended with zeros across the board. However, Owens did have Philly's first catch of the game, and eight more afterwards. He ended the game with 122 yards, proving that the ultimate teammate may be one of football's former primadonnas. His longest reception of 36 yards ended with "Flap Your Wings," his signature celebration this season where he flaps his wings while standing atop the football like a soaring eagle.

The second quarter was much of the same until Eagles' quarterback, Donovan McNabb hooked up tight end L.J. Smith for a 6 yard touchdown. Two-time Super Bowl MVP Tom Brady was hardly fazed and led his Patriots down the field and responded with a touchdown of his own to David Givens making the game even once again.

Brady finished the game going 23 for 33 for 236 yards with a pair of touchdowns to his name as well. He made only one mistake in the game, as he fumbled inside the opposing twenty, spoiling a prime scoring chance they would have had. The Eagles would have the same fate, as McNabb threw three interceptions in the game; two occurring in the red zone. The first half ended 14-7, Patriots.

After last year's interesting halftime show, the network decided to go with something a little more subtle. Paul McCartney brought fans to their feet as he dove into old Beatles hits. As he stood up to move to the piano he removed his jacket,



ESPN.COM

Quarterback Tom Brady has now won three Super Bowls in just four seasons as a starting quarterback. He and Coach Bill Belichick will try to lead the Patriots to the first three-peat in Super Bowl history next season.

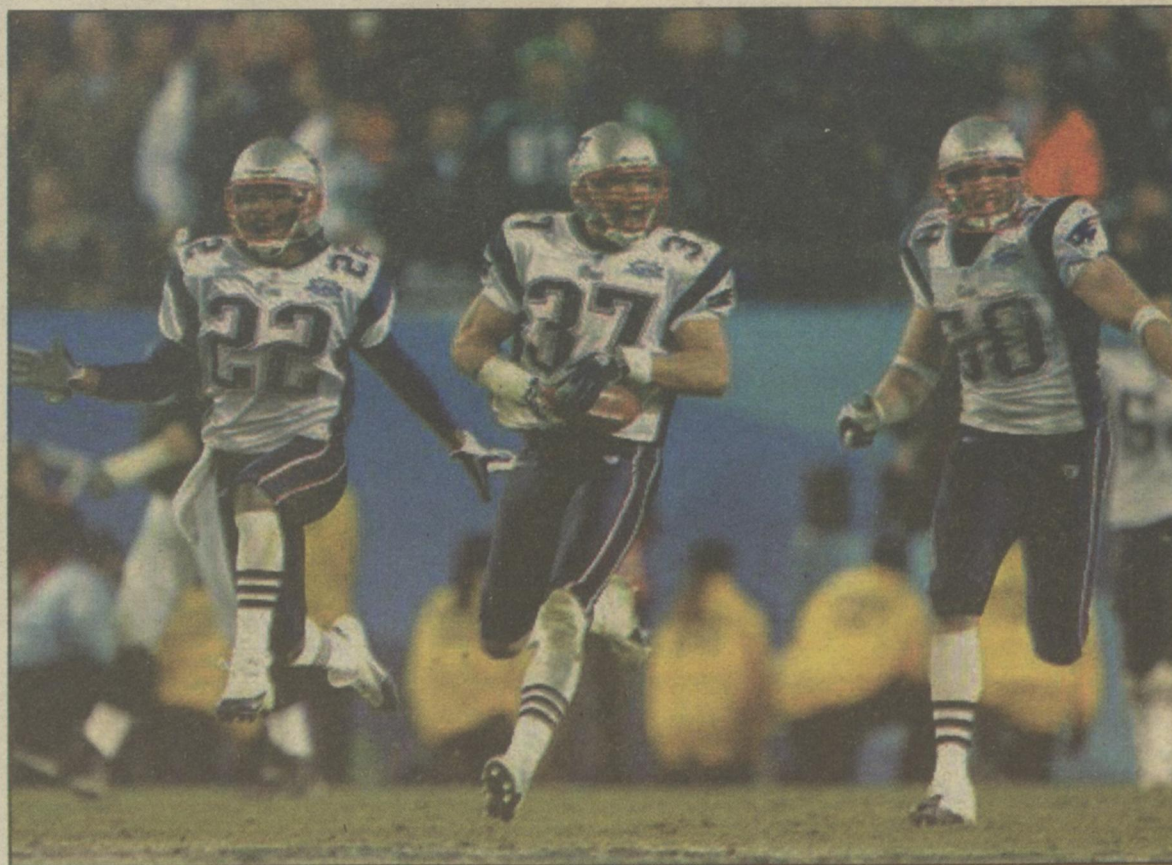
which probably had the people in the network shaking with anxiety after last year's wardrobe malfunction. Fortunately, the concert was a hit and one that reenergized fans for an action-packed second half.

The third quarter brought touchdowns first from Brady to Mike Vrabel putting the Pats

Dillon and a 22-yard field goal by Adam Vinatieri to go up ten. With time dwindling, McNabb hit receiver Greg Lewis for a 30-yard touchdown bringing the game within three points. While the ensuing onside kick failed, the Eagles got the ball back one more time deep in their end zone but were unable to convert

133 yards receiving, making his performance deserving of much praise.

With three Super Bowl wins in the last four years, analysts are starting to agree that this dynasty could be one of the greatest of all-time. If the Patriots win another title they would do something that no other team



ESPN.COM

Patriots safety Rodney Harrison, cornerback Asante Samuel, and linebacker Mike Vrabel celebrate the game ending interception last Sunday. Harrison had two interceptions and Vrabel scored a touchdown for the second straight Super Bowl.

up seven, followed by a pass to Eagles, Brian Westbrook, tying the game once again. The Super Bowl veteran Patriots came out strong in the fourth with a touchdown by running back Corey

against the dominating defense of the Patriots.

Deion Branch was awarded MVP honors after tying the Super Bowl reception record of 11. He also ended the night with

has done before: a three-peat. No matter their performance next season, the team should be congratulated on a great last four years. Next season should be an exciting one.

# UFC 51 brings the pain

By Ingrid Hernandez-Monroy  
 NEWS EDITOR

Last weekend, UFC 51: Super Saturday featured two of the most talked about fighters in mixed martial arts tournaments, in one of the most anticipated fights of the century. "The Dream Fight" between Tito "The Huntington Beach Bad Boy" and the Brazilian with the fastest hands in the UFC, Vitor Belfort, finally took place after three long years of waiting.

The Mandalay Bay arena in Las Vegas was sold out on Saturday night with 11,218 mixed martial arts fans and thousands more watching from home on Pay-Per-View.

The night kicked off with heavyweight Paul Buentello landing a great knockout punch to Justin Eilers's jaw in Round 1 of the first fight. From then on, it was nothing but an excellent fight card of mixed martial artists and pro athletes giving each other their best shot.

Some notable UFC 51 moments included the Middleweight Championship between Gracie Ju-Jitsu Black Belt David Terrell and Evan Tanner, an experienced mixed martial arts fighter making his twelfth appearance in the UFC. By the second minute of Round 1, Terrell "the Soul Assassin" placed Tanner in a guillotine choke, but Tanner escapes and dominates Terrell on the ground. Tanner delivered a good combination of punches and elbows that left Terrell losing after only one round by TKO.

The Interim Heavyweight Championship between Tim "The Maine-iac" Sylvia and Andrei Arlovski ended in 47 seconds, when Arlovski submitted Sylvia by an ankle lock. This is the second time that Sylvia has been defeated in the first round, although his last fight against Frank Mir was much uglier. In that fight, Sylvia refused to tap out while Mir had him in an armbar, resulting in a broken right arm and which needed three titanium plates to fix.

The last fight before the main event between Phil Baroni and Pete "Drago" Sell lasted all three rounds in a constant

Continued UFC, page 14